

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 H-03 SS-20

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P 012225Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1259

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMA 6324

EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: ETRN, PE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: AEROPERU PERMIT AND BILATERAL PROBLEMS

REF: STATE 165402

1. EMBASSY OFFICERS MET WITH MINISTRY TRANSPORT OFFICIALS INCLUDING DGTA BERKEMEYER, JULY 31. THEY GAVE BERKEMEYER COPY OF AEROPERU OPERATING PERMIT, POINTING OUT THAT IT WAS EXACTLY AS DESIRED BY AEROPERU. EMBOFFS REFERRED TO CONVERSATION BETWEEN TRANSPORT MINISTER MENESES AND AMBASSADOR IN WHICH FORMER INDICATED THAT CONSULTATIONS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE IN AUGUST, AND EXPLAINED THAT SEPTEMBER WOULD BE EARLIEST POSSIBLE MONTH FOR USG. IN VIEW OF DELAY OF FIVE TO SIX WEEKS, EMBOFFS REQUESTED THAT GOP PERMIT BRANIFF TO FLY NEW SCHEDULE ON PROVISIONAL BASIS PENDING OUTCOME OF CONSULTATIONS. BERKEMEYER'S REACTION WAS NOT PARTICULARLY POSITIVE, BUT HE SAID REQUEST WOULD BE GIVEN CONSIDERATION. TRANSPORT MINISTRY LAWYER, WHO WAS PRESENT AND WHO HAS PROVEN TROUBLESOME TO BRANIFF IN PAST, RAISED OBJECTION TO BRANIFF'S APPLICATION, WHICH HE SAID WAS TECHNICALLY DEFICIENT. WE HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH BRANIFF, WHICH ASSURES US PROBLEM IS EASILY CORRECTED AND WE INTEND PURSUE MATTER WITH MINISTRY WHEN BRANIFF SUBMITS REVISED APPLICATION.

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2. DCM ALSO SPOKE WITH MARCHAND AT FOREIGN MINISTRY ALONG SAME LINES. HE ASKED MARCHAND WHEN GOP WOULD PERMIT NEW SCHEDULE TO START AND WHEN IN SEPTEMBER GOP MIGHT BE PREPARED TO CONSULT. MARCHAND SAID HE WOULD ALSO CONTACT TRANSPORT MINISTRY TO OBTAIN ANSWER. REGARDING CONSULTATIONS IN SEPTEMBER, HE SAID HE PRESUMED DISCUSSIONS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN LIMA. DCM REPLIED THAT OUR NEGOTIATORS WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY SCHEDULING SUCH CONSULTATIONS, BUT ARE PREPARED TO COME TO LIMA AT A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME.

3. COMMENT: BERCKEMEYER AND MARCHAND ARE AWARE WE HAVE KEPT OUR SIDE OF BARGAIN AND WILL PROBABLY BE UNCOMFORTABLE IF GOP DOES NOT MAKE RECIPROCAL GESTURE. HOWEVER, THERE ARE OTHERS WHO WILL CONTINUE TO RESIST, AND WE EXPECT FURTHER *OOT DRAGGING. IT DOUBTFUL IF ANY DECISION FAVORABLE TO BRANIFF WILL BE TAKEN WITHOUT EXPLICIT APPROVAL OF PRESIDENT VELASCO, WHO HAS TAKEN PERSONAL INTEREST. WE ARE IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH SOUTH OF BRANIFF WHO IS IN LIMA, AND IS IS AWARE OF FOREGOING.

DEAN

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